The State of Washington

COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CAPAA

Improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans

July-September 2001 Volume 2, Issue 2

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

It has been a busy six months. During this time, the CAPAA participated in the legislative process and advocated for the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs), developed and distributed APA heritage month of May resource materials, tracked Census 2000 developments, and advocated for equitable and culturally appropriate education. Interestingly, these activities naturally lead us to follow our state's redistricting process closely.

The significance of redistricting with its maps, algorithms, and deeply divided politics to draw up legislative and congressional political boundaries can be difficult to follow. There are far more important things to worry about like the quality of our public schools, increasing health care costs, family-wage jobs, and parking tickets, right? Actually, redistricting affects the framing and pursuit of these very issues for the next *ten years*, especially as they affect the well-being of APAs and other communities of color.

At its simplest form, redistricting is about political representation. For communities of color, it is about equitable representation of our growing political voice. Two articles in this newsletter begin to discuss this very issue.

If you doubt the significance of redistricting and the power of political representation, consider World War II and the internment of Japanese Americans. It was not until the 1980s that a growing and unified Japanese American political voice led the U.S. government to acknowledge the internment as a violation of civil liberties motivated by "race prejudice." Our government later gave a formal apology and monetary redress to Japanese Americans.

To be sure, many historic and enduring inequities remain to be worked out. It is our hope that our state's Redistricting Commission lays the foundation for true democratic work through equitable representation.

Sincerely,

Miebeth R. Bustillo-Hutchins

Washington State Legislature

Legislative Highlights

By Vilaska P. Nguyen, Legislative Liaison

The following are 2001 Washington State Legislature highlights of interest to the APA community. For more information about these and other bills, please go to http://www.leg.wa.gov.

Bills That Passed

- **SHB 1174 allows individuals to remove misdemeanors or aggravated misdemeanors from their record and helps avoid deportation.**
- **2SHB 1445 extends the life of the Prosperity Partnership Account, which offers low-interest rate loans to qualifying economically disadvantaged women and minority businesses.**
- **HB 1716 provides income assistance benefits to qualified World War II veterans living in the Republic of the Philippines.**
- **2SHB 2025 reviews the criteria for when limited-English-proficient (LEP) students must take the Washington Assessment on Student Learning (WASL).**
- **HJM 4002 asks the federal government to provide full veterans benefits to Filipino Veterans who served under the U.S. flag during World War II.**

Operating Budget Highlights

Increase in homecare worker wages; maintenance of medically indigent, adult dental and vision care, chore, and adult day health programs.

Capital Budget Highlights

- **Filipino Community Center of Seattle ($250,000)**
- **Filipino Community Center of Wapato ($25,000)**
- **Korean Women's Association of Tacoma ($218,000)**
- **Lao Highland Association of King County ($219,000)**

Note: HB=House Bill; SB=Senate Bill; SHB=Substitute House Bill; 2S=Second Substitute; HJM=House Joint Memorial

In This Issue

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Dear Friends,

As we move into the 21st century, the Japanese American Community is still dealing with its demons of the past. Whether we admit it or not, the internment is the albatross of our community.

The Japanese American Citizens League recently adopted a resolution acknowledging "resisters of conscience," who believed the internment was a violation of their constitutional rights and therefore did not participate in the military. The resolution was meant to heal past wounds and recognize that all forms of protest are necessary to protect human rights. However, many of our esteemed veterans were upset by the resolution and threatened to resign their membership.

This gaping wound between Resisters of Conscience and our veterans is but a symbol of the emotional scars from the internment which hold back Japanese Americans. As Dr. Satsuki Ina said, "For many Japanese Americans, the normal healing process from the trauma of the betrayal and incarceration has not been complete."

We need to end our inconsistent pattern of denial of past injustice while hanging on to it. As Dr. Ina suggests, we must face the monster, slay it, and move on. We must ask, listen, accept the choices each person made during that time of crisis, and try to understand their decisions. We must acknowledge that we lost our rights, our dignity, and our faith in the American ideal, and then identify what we have gained from that experience.

To finish our "unfinished business" on internment, Dr. Ina recommends we teach about it, stand up to current discrimination, and cherish our present freedom. Perhaps if we can follow Dr. Ina's recommendations, we can fully acknowledge the historical injustice of the past while healing from it and ensuring that it will never happen again. Only then can we move into the 21st Century and fully exercise our voice.

Sincerely,

Yvonne

Yvonne Kinoshita Ward
1st Vice-Chair

APA Service Agency Snapshot

Nikkei Concerns

By Kongkham Panyathong, Intern

In order to address healthcare and accommodation needs of first generation *Issei*, the Nikkei Concerns was established in 1975. As a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide health and related services in a traditional atmosphere to primarily elderly *Nikkei* (individuals of Japanese descent) in the Pacific Northwest, Nikkei Concerns has become a leader in elderly care. Today, there are five programs and facilities, each operating with cultural, social and linguistic preferences of an increasingly diverse elder population.

- **Seattle Keiro**—a 150-bed skilled nursing facility offering a wide range of medical and rehabilitative services.
- **Nikkei Manor**—an assisted living facility, offering 50 private apartment units and an array of customized services that maximize residents' independence.
- **Kokoro Kai**—an adult day health program featuring activities that promote mental and physical wellness.
- **Nikkei Horizons**—a continuing education program that promotes life-long learning for active seniors.
- **KIDcare (Keiro Intergenerational Day Care)**—a culturally enriched program that fosters meaningful interaction between nursing home residents and children from infants to pre-schoolers.

Photo courtesy of Nikkei Concerns.

For more information, please contact Ellen Bhang, Communications Associate, at (206) 726-6468 or ellenb@nikkeiconcerns.org.

Washington State Redistricting

Adapted with Permission from the Washington State Redistricting Commission Web Site
http://www.redistricting.wa.gov

Redistricting, or the redrawing of political boundaries, occurs every ten years. It largely determines your political representation.

What is redistricting?

Redistricting is the process of redrawing political district boundaries. Using new U.S. Census Bureau data, legislative and congressional district boundaries are realigned every 10 years to accommodate population increases and decreases within the state.

What is reapportionment?

Reapportionment occurs every 10 years to reallocate congressional seats among the 50 states in order to reflect population changes since the last census. The U.S. Constitution establishes 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. Each state receives at least one congressional seat and the remaining 385 are apportioned according to population.

The Census 2000 population count indicated that Washington has nearly 5.9 million residents—enough to have nine congressional seats. However, even with our significant growth, Washington did not gain a 10th congressional seat in 2001.

Why do we have to redistrict?

Redistricting is done to ensure that every Washington citizen is represented fairly in the Legislature and Congress. The U.S. and state constitutions require that each congressional and legislative district be represented by an equal number of people to ensure fair distribution of political power. Births, deaths and migration contribute to statewide and district population shifts from one decennial census to the next. Redistricting adjusts political boundaries to reflect these changes.

How many people will each legislative and congressional district contain?

Each of Washington's 49 legislative districts must have approximately 120,288 persons. Each of the nine congressional districts must have approximately 654,902 persons.

Who is in charge of redistricting in Washington?

The Washington State Redistricting Commission is the bipartisan commission charged with preparing a legislative and congressional district plan after each U.S. Census. The five-member Commission must submit a redistricting plan to the Legislature by December 15, 2001. The new districts will be used beginning with the 2002 congressional and legislative elections.

Has Washington always redistricted by commission?

No, the Legislature established the boundaries of Washington's election districts until 1980. In 1983, the voters of the state approved a constitutional amendment that established the independent Redistricting Commission. Legislative and congressional redistricting by commission was first done in 1991.

How were the present commissioners appointed? Who may become commissioners?

Each House and Senate caucus leader appointed one voting member to the commission in January. The four commission members, in turn, appointed the nonvoting commission chairperson. A commissioner may be any registered state voter who 1) is not a current registered lobbyist, or former lobbyist within one year before appointment; or 2) is not a current elected official, or an elected state, district, or county party official, or has not held such a position for two years prior to appointment. Commissioners may not campaign for elective office or actively participate in or contribute to a state or federal candidate running for office. A commission member must refrain from holding or campaigning for a state legislative office or for Congress for two years after the effective date of the plan.

How does the Commission adopt a redistricting plan? Can it be changed?

A redistricting plan must be approved by three of the four voting Commission members. This plan becomes final unless it is amended by the Legislature within 30 days after the beginning of next regular or special session.

A legislative amendment, however, can affect no more than two percent of a district's population and must be approved by two-thirds of the members of each chamber. The Governor may not veto the redistricting plan. There is no final vote of approval on the redistricting plan, and it takes effect after the 30-day period elapses. If the commission fails to meet the submission deadline, the state Supreme Court must prepare a plan by April 30, 2002.

What process will the Redistricting Commission follow?

Starting in May, the five-member Commission will hold a series of public hearings throughout the state. Commissioners will take public testimony and accept comments regarding redistricting priorities, maps and how districts should be redrawn. At the same time, the Commission will direct its staff to continue the ongoing census data analysis and redistricting preparations that are underway.

Redistricting Principles

While the commission has significant latitude in developing a plan, it must follow established legal standards. The guiding principles for creating a redistricting plan include:

- each district shall have a population as nearly equal as practicable to the population of any other district;
- district lines should be drawn to coincide with local political subdivisions (such as city and county lines) and communities of interest;
- districts should be convenient, contiguous (share a common land boarder or transportation route) and compact;
- 49 legislative and 9 congressional districts must be drawn based on state law and federal apportionment totals;
- plans should be drawn to provide fair and effective representation and encourage electronic competition;
- plans shall not be drawn to purposely favor or discriminate against any political party or group.

Remaining Public Hearing Schedule

All meetings are from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM.

July 16, 2001 (Spokane)
Public Works Building
1026 Broadway
Commissioners Hearing Room

July 17, 2001 (Pasco)
Franklin County PUD Auditorium
1411 West Clark

July 18, 2001 (Yakima)
Yakima County Admin. Building,
Room 420
128 North Second Street

July 19, 2001 (Ellensburg)
Ellensburg Public Safety Building
102 North Pearl
Council Chambers

July 23, 2001 (Tacoma)
Pierce County Public Services Building
2401 South 35th
Room A

July 25, 2001 (Mount Vernon)
PUD #1 of Skagit County
1415 Freeway Drive
Aqua Room

July 26, 2001 (Everett)
Snohomish County Admin. Building
3000 Rockefeller Avenue
Ginni Stevens Hearing Room

August 2, 2001 (Seattle)
Seattle Municipal Building
600 4th Avenue #1100
Council Chambers

For more information regarding public meetings, please contact Filiz Satir at (360) 586-9000, or go to http://www.redistricting.wa.gov

Japanese Americans

By Ryan Minato, Research Analyst

Immigration Beginnings

In the mid-1800s, Japan faced depressed farming conditions and political turmoil. In 1868, Japanese farmers, mostly young men, made up the first wave bound for employment on Hawaiian sugar plantations. After the Chinese were banned from immigrating to the U.S. as a result of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Japanese men came in increasing numbers to fill jobs previously held by the Chinese. These jobs included work on Washington's railroads and farms and in developing the state's strawberry and oyster industries.

As a result of the U.S. annexation of Hawaii in 1898 and the passage of Organic Act in 1900, which resulted in labor migration onto the mainland, an increasing flow of Japanese plantation workers headed to California and the Pacific Northwest. Between 1898 and 1907, the Japanese were Washington's fastest-growing minority group.

Soon there were calls to ban Japanese immigration as well. However, Japan's protectiveness of its people and its military strength made the U.S. cautious of angering Japan. Therefore, President Theodore Roosevelt made a secret arrangement with the Japanese emperor. In 1907, they signed a "Gentleman's Agreement," where Japan agreed to slow the flow of immigrant labor and the U.S. would try to metigate the bad treatment of Japanese workers.

Unionization

Although Japanese workers had the cautious eye of their native government, they did not escape unfair labor practices. A common labor practice at the time, plantation owners set minority groups against each other by creating an atmosphere of competition for the same jobs. For example, owners kept the number of workers in each minority group small and in relative size to each other, which promoted intense competition. Also, after some time, owners brought in new groups willing to work at lower wages. Both practices had the effect of diminishing the potential for large scale unionization. However, aware they could not effectively advance themselves, Japanese workers tended to emphasize a class strategy of unionization. By 1903, the Japanese-Mexican Labor Association defined their struggle in class terms and for the first time in California history, two minority groups came together to form a union. By 1920 Filipinos and Japanese in Hawaii, joined by Spanish, Portuguese, and Chinese laborers, participated in the first major interethnic working-class struggle, cooperating against the sugarcane-planter class.

Picture-Brides and Community Growth

Although immigrant labor slowed down considerably, the Japanese community grew and developed largely because Japan sanctioned and the U.S. allowed the emigration of Japanese picture-brides and other family members. The Japanese government believed that a family-oriented Japanese American community, committed to permanent settlement in the U.S., would eliminate anti-Japanese sentiment. Interestingly, the custom of picture-brides allowed the Japanese community to establish strong communities in the U.S. early on, unlike other Asian groups whose male to women ratio remained grossly disproportionate for decades.

Another factor to the Japanese American community's strength was its ability to seek support within its own. Denied employment in many labor markets and the meager wages of agricultural jobs, Japanese Americans commonly sought self-employment. According to the Immigration Commission, by 1909, there were between 3,000 and 3,500 Japanese-owned establishments in the western states. But the community's very success aroused further exclusionist protest, and their withdrawal into self-contained ethnic communities for survival and protection aroused suspcision and hostility.

Executive Order 9066

A turning point in Japanese American history was in World War II (WWII), when the U.S. declared war on Japan on Dec. 8, 1941, the day after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, without warning. On Feb. 19, 1942, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which singled out the removal of people of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast, despite the fact that the U.S. was also at war with Germany, Italy, Rumania, Slovakia, and Finland. The Japanese American community in Bainbridge Island in Washington was the first to be evacuated. In the end, approximeately 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry, two-thirds of whom were American citizens, were forced out of their homes and sent to concentration camps scattered in inhospitable desert regions of the West.

The Japanese American community was torn by the internment. Some refused to report to the internment camps and fled East and into Canada. Others challenged curfews and internment orders. Notable were Minoru Yasui, Gordon Hirabayashi, and Fred Korematsu whose "civil disobedience" cases reached the U.S. Supreme Court. Many others found resistance in the internment camps, where they were forced to fill out and sign a loyalty questionnaire: *Loyal, disloyal, if asked, what should I answer?* Some 4,600 or 22% of the 21,000 males eligible to register for the military draft answer the question with a "no, no" in protest of the internment. Later called "no, no boys," many continued to refuse induction and were sentenced to Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary.

Still others were eager to prove their patriotism and joined the 100th battallion, almost entirely made up of Japanese Americans from Hawaii. In 1944, the 100th battalion became part of the all-volunteer Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which later became the most decorated unit of its size in American military history with 18,143 medals for valor and 9,486 Order of the Purple Heat decorations. The unit achieved this despite the fact that it never had more than 3,000 soldiers at any one time. Also noteworthy are the significant number of Japanse Americans who served in the U.S. Military Intelligence Service, where they performed critical intelligence missions in the Pacific.

Civil Rights Affirmation

After WWII, Japanese Americans were allowed to return to the West Coast. Some did not want to talk about the internment. It was too humiliating and and painful. Others actively protested the actions of the U.S. government as a violation of civil liberities. Eventually, the community came together for the redress movement that questioned the necessity of their internment.

In 1976, President Gerald Ford declared the internment a "national mistake." In 1981, Commission on Wartime Relocation declared that the WWII Japanese internment was a "grave injustice" caused by "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership." In 1988, President Reagan signed House Resolution 442, providing redress payments to surviving internees, education funds, and a formal apology by the U.S. government.

Background Photo: Japanese Americans escorted by the U.S. military off of Bainbridge Island in response to Executive Order 9066. Photo courtesy of Museum of History and Industry, *Post-Intelligencer* collection.

Sources: Takaki, Ronald. "Strangers from a Different Shore," 1989; Vall-Spinosa, Peter "History of Japanese Americans in Seattle," 1969; Chan, Sucheng. "Asian Americans," 1991.

Redistricting and Community of Color Interests

By Miebeth R. Bustillo-Hutchins, Executive Director

For over two centuries, the collective concerns of communities of color have been at the political periphery of policymaking. Redistricting can change this undemocratic condition through equitable political representation.

The Role of Redistricting

Since the early days of our American democracy, redistricting has largely determined the likelihood of who and what would be represented in the legislative and congressional policymaking arenas. Today, the redrawing of political boundaries to determine politcal representation is more complex in part because the U.S. has a long history of politically alienated ethnic groups, is increasingly ethnically diverse, and is more politically polarized. Also noteworthy is that it was a mere 36 years ago that the Voting Rights Act of 1965, later amended in 1975 and 1982, guaranteed all citizens the right to vote, to vote in an unobstructed manner, and have the opportunity to vote for "candidates of choice." Although some things changed for the better, what is at a snail-like pace to catch up is to make the political voice of the rapidly growing communities of color count.

Fundamentally, redistricting is critically important to the growing communities of color because it affects whether our concerns are framed appropriately, heard genuinely, and addressed effectively for the next *ten years*.

Population Growth

Washington State's minority communities have grown considerably. We make up approximately 21% of our state's population in 2000, compared to 13.2% in 1990. We are also growing significantly faster than the White population. For example, when adjusted to 1990 racial groups, Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) make up the fastest growing racial group in the state with a gain of 78%; Hispanics make up the fastest growing ethnic group with a gain of 106%; African Americans with 35%; and American Indians, Alaskan Natives and Aleuts with 29%, all during the last decade. In fact, these growth rates exceed the 21.1% growth rate of our state's total population. Furthermore, approximately 42% of the state's population gain of over one million is due to the population gains of minority communities. Nevertheless, even with significant population growth, people of color have a difficult time getting elected into office, and their concerns addressed.

Common Interests

Communities of color share similar concerns and interests in such areas as education, health care, economic development, and civil rights. However, our shared concerns continue to be at the periphery of most elected officials' political radar screens and are not sufficiently addressed in the Washington State Legislature and in the U.S. Congress.

The legacy of historic and chronic political alienation persists in glaring ways. Volumes of research attribute socioeconomic gaps in such root causes as symbolic racism, differences between policy areas, and the framing of issues. Political alienation and ineffective public policies lead to such inequities as academic achievement gaps, high poverty rates, poor access to health care, and racial profiling of people of color. For example, the latter often results in non-White individuals receiving more traffic tickets than their White counterparts, even with similar number of traffic stops.

> *"Not accounting for the shared interests of communities of color during the redistricting process may not have discriminatory intent, but may in effect have discriminatory results."*

Discriminatory Consequences

Communities of color continue to experience historically rooted socio-economic gaps, despite good-intentioned, but inequitably and/or inappropriately applied, public policies. Although research shows that the gap between Whites and non-Whites have declined considerably on general principles of racial equality, the same research also shows that huge differences persists on policies aimed at producing equality among the races. Redistricting then has a significant role in accounting for the communities of color's political representation in the midst of established political voices.

Not accounting for the shared interests of communities of color during the redistricting process may not have discriminatory *intent*, but may in effect have discriminatory *results*. In this case, communities of color are *de facto* disenfranchised if their growing political voice is not represented in ways that ensure the meaningful pursuit of their concerns.

Compactness & Communities of Interest

Among the redistricting principles that the Washington State Redistricting Commission has to consider are that district lines coincide with communities of interest and are convenient, contiguous, and compact. With respect to compactness, it is tempting and perhaps too easy to measure and define that "compact" means something with neat geometric shapes. For example, many might quip, "Why not just draw squares, and make every district look the same?" Or if presented with a silhouette drawing of a district, it is easy to name what the shape calls to mind, "It looks like a rabbit," suggesting that it may not be compact.

However, in his book ***Bushmanders and Bullwinkles***, Mark Monmonier, geography professor in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, states that silhouette drawings of district maps ignore population density variations, highlight winding borders that may be perfectly logical, and focus undue attention on compactness. For example, the stark black-and-white maps could not show whether or not some areas are uninhabited; where natural boundaries such as shorelines, rivers and mountain ranges roam freely, and what the common interests of the people who live in the area are.

It is easy to force our simple idea of compactness to fit how we ought to be represented politically. It is understandable given our innate desire to simplify complex ideas. However, Mother Nature, societal constructions, and the effects of centuries of political alienation do not fit neatly with our bird's eye sense of compactness. Closer to reality, we soon find that people and communities in general do not migrate and settle in neat geometric shapes. Some people settle near beachfronts because they can afford it; while others settle near interstate and highway corridors because of transportation or housing limitations; still other ethnic communities are dispersed because they go where they can find employment. What holds them in common, however, are often their common interests and state of affairs. Unusual political boundaries may indeed be perfectly logical and legal, precisely because they are discernable communities of common interests. Even rabbits have unique habitation and socialized patterns that from a bird's eye perspective seem bizarre to us but logical to the rabbits.

In the case of communities of color, a geometric sense of geographic compactness ignores the socioeconomic gaps, political alienation, and subsequent habitation patterns of people of color. Arguably, compactness can be measured multidimensionally along geographic, political, and economic lines. Besides, in the age of mass media and the borderless Internet—where instant communication is a point and click away—geographic distance loses its significance in how candidates can effectively campaign and serve their constituents.

Democracy's Many Voices

The Redistricting Commission can honor representative democracy's many voices by ensuring that the political voice of all people are actualized and equitably represented. Also, redistricting can preserve some of the progress already made by ensuring that those districts significantly made up of communities of color maintain a demographic composition that creates opportunities to elect the communities' "candidates of choice." To draw political boundaries that dilute communities of color across districts would reduce our political voice to a political whisper, indiscernible among the established political voices of state's vast majority.

The Redistricting Commission has an awesome responsibility to account for the political voice of our state's many communities. It is our hope that as the Commission draws up redistricting plans, it puts the work of democracy on due course to equality by seriously accounting for the common and growing interests of communities of color through equitable political representation.

Sources: Census 1990, 2000; Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division, 2000; Canon, David T. "Race, Redistricting, & Representation," 1999; Monmonier, Mark. "Bushmanders & Bullwinkles," 2001; Washington State Redistricting Commission, 2001.

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CAPAA Calendar and Historical Events

Current

Ongoing through 2002 - "If Tired Hands Could Talk" a multimedia historical display about Seattle's garment industry, Wing Luke Asian Museum. Contact: (206) 694-6796.

Jul. 26-29 - Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) convention, Westin Hotel, 1900 5th Ave., Seattle. Free programs for youth and seniors, job fair, women's business development. Contact: (425) 895-1086. http://www.ocanatl.org

Aug. 6 - From Hiroshima to Hope, annual event to remember those who perished in the Hiroshima-Nagasaki bombing, concluded with the floating of candle-lit lanterns, Northwest shore of Green Lake, Seattle, free. Contact: (206) 623-5124.

Sep. 28 - Benefit Dinner and Dance for the Asian Counseling & Referral Service, Grand Ballroom, Seattle Sheraton Hotel & Towers, 6 PM. Contact: (206) 695-7551.

Historic

Jul. 23, 1863 - Chinese American William Ah Hang becomes one of the first Asian Americans to enlist in U.S. Navy during the Civil War.

Jul. 28, 1959 - Daniel K. Inouye becomes first Japanese American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives (1959-63).

Aug. 1, 1920 - Sammy Lee born, Olympic gold medalist in diving.

Aug. 1, 1950 - U.S. Congress grants citizenship to Guamanians.

Aug. 5, 1919 - Korean Women's Patriotic League forms, uniting Korean women's organizations.

Aug. 14, 1952 - Filipino American Sgt. LeRoy A. Mendonca posthumously presented Medal of Honor for gallantry during the Korean War.

Aug. 21, 1959 - Hawaii becomes 50th state.

Aug. 29, 1930 - Founding convention of the Japanese American Citizens League.

Sep. 1, 1946 - 21,000 APA union workers walk off Hawaiian sugar plantations in a strike that lasts almost three months.

Sep. 14, 1950 - Eugene Huu-Chau Trinh born, Vietnamese American space shuttle astronaut.

Sep. 20, 1899 - Dalip Singh Saund born, first Asian elected to Congress in 1956 from Imperial Valley, California.

Sep. 25, 1971 - Japaneses American Citizens League wins its fight to repeal the Emergency Detention Act of 1950.

Sep. 27, 1922 - Benjamin Menor born, first Filipino to serve in U.S. legislature (Hawaiian State Senate, 1962-66).

Volunteer and Make a Difference

Looking for volunteer or internship opportunities? Please call, (206) 464-5820. You *will* make a difference.

The *CAPAA Newsletter* is a publication by the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs.

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Miebeth R. Bustillo-Hutchins

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